

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Hungary

SUBJECT Political - Censorship

HOW PUBLISHED Weekly newspapers

WHERE PUBLISHED Munich; New York

DATE PUBLISHED 14 Aug, 1 Sep 1950

LANGUAGE Hungarian

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950

DATE DIST. of Nov 1950

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 80 U. S. C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

TIGHTEN MAIL CENSORSHIP IN HUNGARY

STRENGTHEN CENSORSHIP BEGUN 1 AUGUST -- Munich, Hungary, 1 Sep 50

Since 1947, foreign mail arriving in the country has been censored at Budapest. Ernest Gero, then Minister of Communications, organized censorship of the mails in the early days of Communist control. Since November 1947, censorship has been under the supervision of the State Security Authority. Up to the present, only 25 or 30 percent of the mail was opened; packages were examined primarily for nylon stockings, coffee, tea, and cocoa.

Toward the end of 1948, the censorship unit imported instruments from Moscow and Eastern Germany for examining mail by shining light through letters, for opening and resealing letters without leaving traces, and for making photostatic copies of suspicious letters.

Until August of this year, only letters arriving for 1,500 to 1,600 addresses and the US mail was strictly censored. A file was prepared of those who carry on foreign correspondence. This file is supervised by Paul Aranyosi, a former journalist. On 1 August, the censorship offices at Vienna, Szombathely, and Budapest were augmented with 450-500 officers, so that today every letter is opened and every card is read.

Since 7 August, Hungarians have been arrested in connection with the contents of letters received from Salzburg, Linz, Innsbruck, Munich, Zurich, and Paris. Most of those arrested were of the former middle class.

SOVIETS EXAMINE FOREIGN MAIL -- New York, Amerikai Magyar Hang, 14 Aug 50

Correspondence between Hungary and the West thus far has been censored by the AVH (State Security Authority) at the Budapest Post Offices Numbers 62 and 72. The censorship was not general.

- 1 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSRB	DISTRIBUTION									
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI										

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

Foreign censorship has now been taken over by the USSR Counterintelligence in Hungary. Their headquarters is located at Szombathely and censorship is in charge of MVD Col Julian Kunov.

All letters arriving in Hungary from the West are sent to Szombathely, where mail is censored without leaving any visible marks on the envelope or on its contents. Suspicious letters are photographed. The new censorship system has already netted several victims.

- E N D -

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL